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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Altenburg

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 13 to 29 September 1950

DATE OBTAINED

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DATE PREPARED 24 October 1950

REFERENCES

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PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 29 September 1950 the Neue Kaserne of Altenburg (N 51/K 27), located on the western side of the road to Leipzig, was occupied by about 1,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, mostly with artillery insignia. The troops included about 50 officers and a military band of platoon strength. Troops engaged in artillery and gas mask drill were observed for about 10 days. The gas mask filters were contained in canvas bags. Inspection of recruits at drill, driving, combat firing, artillery drill and athletic exercises had been conducted for the two weeks before. The unit quartered in the installation was equipped with about 15 personnel carriers with and without caterpillar drive, 100 to 150 trucks, about 30 prime movers, 20 long-barreled 150-mm guns and about 20 short-barreled 150-mm guns. *

2. The buildings of the Herzog Ernst Kaserne on the eastern side of the road to Leipzig were being remodeled. The new barracks buildings, about one third of the total buildings, were partly occupied by about 400 troops, apparently belonging to an AT artillery battalion. The unit was equipped with 16 track-laying personnel carriers which also served as prime movers for the AT guns, sixteen 100-mm AT guns and 35 trucks. **

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3. Between 20 and 24 September 1950 motor vehicles were observed at the Herzog Ernst Kaserne and motor vehicles were observed at the Neue Kaserne. **

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* Comment.

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the Neue Kaserne on the western side of the road to Leipzig houses elements of the 43rd (Gds) Gun Arty Brig of the Eighth Gds Army. The installation quartered about 450 more troops than had been observed there on 13 August and 3 September 1950.

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It is believed that other elements of the brigade returned from a troop training grounds in the period between. The figures referring to the gun equipment are estimates. It is possible that the 43rd (Gds) Gun Arty Brig is organized into three independent artillery battalions, each consisting of three 4-gun batteries.

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* Comment. The information indicates that some of the component units of the 38th AT Arty Brig of the XXVIII Gds ~~Mts~~ Rifle Corps, were still away from their quarters in the Herzog Ernst Kaserne on 29 September 1950, presumably at Ohrdruf.

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